(b) whether revenue is collected on such land by State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the forest land given the private parties for its development in Madhya Pradesh during 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(e) the revenue collected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Prior approval of the Central Government is required under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes and for assignment of forest land to any organisation not owned, controlled or managed by the Government. Detailed consolidated guidelines have been issued by this Ministry for processing and examination of the proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in this regard. However, in view of the increasing threat of encroachment upon the large quantum of degraded forest land in the country and the need to afforest it urgently so as to expand green cover, inhibit encroachment and halt soil denudation and also to meet rural fuel and fodder needs and thereby to reduce pressure on existing natural forests and protected areas, the Government is considering to involve industry in afforestation of severely degraded areas in partnership with State Forest Development Corporations so as to augment the efforts and the financial resources available for afforestation schemes of the Central and State Governments. NGOs and people's cooperatives.

(b) and (c) While according approval to the proposals of the State Governments for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes, condition of compensatory afforestation, if applicable, is stipulated by the Central Government. As per this condition, the user agency is required to deposit the funds for compensatory afforestation in favour of the State Government.

(d) No approval has been accorded under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for allotment of forest land to private parties for its development during 1992-93 and 1993-94.

(e) Does not arise.

आधुनिक दावानल नियंत्रण पद्धतियां

3823. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री 27 जुलाई, 1994 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 167 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) शत-प्रतिशत रूप से केन्द्र द्वारा प्रायोजित "आधुनिक दावानल नियंत्रण पद्धतियां" नामक योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ख) इस योजना के अंतर्गत कौन-कौन सी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध हैं?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ): (क) और (ख) "आधुनिक दावानल नियंत्रण विधियां" नामक स्कीम के मुख्य घटक हैं, वन आग की रोकथाम, उनका पता लगाना तथा उन पर नियंत्रण करना, इस संबंध में अनुसंधान एवं विकास करना, प्रशिक्षण एवं निदर्शन, प्रचार, विस्तार और वनवासियों को शिक्षित करना है।

इस स्कीम के तहत राज्यों एवं संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों की फायर लाइनों के सृजन एवं अनुरक्षण, आधुनिक दावानल शामक हस्तचालित ओजारों, जल हैंडलिंग उपस्करों, फायर फाइन्डर्स, फायर टेंडर्स, अचल एवं चल वायरलैत सेटों अग्निरोधी कपड़ों की खरीद, निगरानी टावरों के निर्माण तथा अनुसंधान, प्रशिक्षण एवं निदर्शन के लिए शतप्रतिशत वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराई जाती है।

MOU signed between HUDCO and French Agency

3824. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any MoU has recently been signed between HUDCO and a French agency for a long term cooperation for efficient management of solid wastes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Indo French Collaboration Programme, Solid Waste Management is one of the areas identified for cooperation. HUDCO organised a workshop on Solid Waste

Management in New Delhi on 26—28th April, 1994. At the end of workshop, an MoU has been signed between AGENCE DE L' ENVIRONMENT ET DE LA MAITRISE DE L' ENERGIE (ADEME) and HUDCO for developing the potential of HUDCO in the field of solid waste management and to identify integrated city level projects where pilot projects could be set up.

Unutilised Desert Land in Gujarat

3825. SHRIMATI URMILA BEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a vast unutilised land in Kutch desert in Gujarat state;

(b) if so, whether Government have any plan to have a large scale plantation in Kutch Desert area in the State;

(c) whether there is any demand to develop a large scale foundation by some private agency on Iserali system;

(d) if so, whether Government will encourage the agency and allot the land and provide them the due facilities; and

(e) the names of the agencies who have offered to undertake the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Financial assistance is given to the State Government of Gujarat under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) in seven blocks namely Abdasa, Anjar, Bhachav, Bhuj, Lakhapat, Nakhatram and Rapar of Kutch district in Gujarat.

(c) No proposal in this regard has been received by this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

Export of Endangered Species

3826. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times of 30th May, 1994 to the effect that even the endangered species in wild plants, herbs and timbers have been put back on the export list; and

(b) whether Government will reconsider taking these out of the export list in order to protect our genetic heritage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Delhi edition of the Economic Times of 30 May, 1994 does not reflect news to the effect. However, critically endangared species of plants, herbs and timbers have been put under prohibited list of exports. This is being continuously reviewed and revised on the export report of the Botanical Survey of India and State Forest Departments.

Clearance of Pending Projects for Karnataka

3827. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six project proposals for environmental protection, forestry development and wildlife preservation aggregating a total outlay of more than Rs. 525.00 crores, submitted by Government of Karnataka, are pending with the Central Government for study and clearance;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of each project and the outlay of assistance sought; and

(c) the progress made on evaluation and clearance of each of these proposals and the likely time for completion of evaluation studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). The details of the pending project proposals for environmental protection, forestry development and wildlife preservation submitted by Government of Karnataka alongwith progress made on evaluation and clearance for each of the projects is given in the enclosed statement.